

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 297893 TOSEC 320040

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 EUR-12 CCO-00 SSO-00 /032 R

DRAFTED BY PM/SAS:RJSLOTT;RS

APPROVED BY D - CHARLES W. ROBINSON

PM - MR. ERICSON

T - MR. JORDAN

P - MR. HABIB

EUR/IB - MR. ROWELL (INFO)

S/S - FVORTIZ

S - DPASSAGE

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 297893 TOSEC 320040

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.), MASS

SUBJECT: ACTION MEMORANDUM - CORRECTION TO ACTION MEMORAN-
DUM ENTITLED, "FOREIGN ASSISTANCE BUDGET APPEAL"
(S/S NO. 7625122, DECEMBER 6).

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM ROBINSON

1. THE PROBLEM.

THE LAST SENTENCE OF THE FIRST PARAGRAPH OF MY ACTION
MEMORANDUM TO YOU (S/S 7625122 OF DECEMBER 6), ENTITLED,
"FOREIGN ASSISTANCE BUDGET APPEAL," WHICH YOU HAVE WITH YOU
IS INCORRECT. IN A TELEGRAPHIC EXCHANGE WITH YOU IN
MEXICO CITY YOU APPROVED REQUESTING AN ADDITIONAL \$25 MIL-
LION IN GRANT MILITARY MATERIEL ASSISTANCE FOR PORTUGAL,
BUT DISAPPROVED APPEALING THE PRESIDENT'S DECISION TO
REDUCE GRANT TRAINING ASSISTANCE FOR PORTUGAL BY \$1.7
MILLION (THAT IS, FROM \$3.0 MILLION TO \$1.3 MILLION). WE
REQUEST THAT YOU RECONSIDER THE LATTER DECISION AND APPROVE
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APPEALING THIS REDUCTION IN GRANT TRAINING FOR PORTUGAL.

2. BACKGROUND.

WE STRONGLY BELIEVE THAT PORTUGAL WILL REQUIRE A \$3 MILLION LEVEL OF GRANT MILITARY TRAINING IN FY 1978 AND 1979. THIS LEVEL OF ASSISTANCE IS DIRECTLY RELATED TO PORTUGAL'S INCREASED ROLE IN NATO, AND THE NEED TO TRAIN A CADRE OF PROFESSIONAL AND APOLITICAL MILITARY OFFICERS. WE ALSO NEED THIS AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE TO ASSURE THAT THE PORTUGUESE ARE ABLE TO UTILIZE EFFECTIVELY AMERICAN-SUPPLIED MILITARY EQUIPMENT FOR THE AIRBORNE BRIGADE COMMITTED TO NATO. MOREOVER, THIS MODEST AMOUNT OF GRANT TRAINING WOULD BE IN CONSONANCE WITH YOUR APPROVAL OF OUR REQUEST FOR AN ADDITIONAL \$25 MILLION IN GRANT MILITARY MATERIEL ASSISTANCE FOR PORTUGAL IN FY 1978. SHOULD YOU RECONSIDER AND APPROVE THIS APPEAL, THE MEMORANDUM TO THE PRESIDENT ATTACHED TO MY ACTION MEMORANDUM NEED NOT BE CHANGED, SINCE IT INCLUDES THIS APPEAL.

3. RECOMMENDATION:

THAT YOU APPROVE APPEALING THE REDUCTION OF \$1.7 MILLION FOR GRANT MILITARY TRAINING FOR PORTUGAL.

APPROVE DISAPPROVE

4. YOUR EARLY ATTENTION IS REQUESTED IN ORDER THAT THE MEMORANDUM TO THE PRESIDENT CAN BE SENT FORWARD

5. CLEARED: PM:RERICSON; T:AJORDAN; P:PHABIB;
EUR/IB:EROWELL; APPROVED: D:CROBINSON.
ROBINSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TOSEC, BUDGETS, MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS
Control Number: S7625122
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE297893
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RJSLOTT;RS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760452-1326
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761262/aaaacbcu.tel
Line Count: 93
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN PM
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26 JUL 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <05 NOV 2004 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ACTION MEMORANDUM - CORRECTION TO ACTION MEMORAN- DUM ENTITLED, "FOREIGN ASSISTANCE BUDGET APPEAL" (S/S NO. 7625122, DECEMBER 6).
TAGS: OVIP, MASS, US, PO, (KISSINGER, HENRY A)
To: SECRETARY
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006